

YEARLY BUDGET SHEET

Names: _____

Occupation 1: _____ Pre-Tax Income: _____ After Tax Income (Pre-Tax X .70): _____

Occupation 2: _____ Pre-Tax Income: _____ After Tax Income (Pre-Tax X .70): _____

NET Total Income (Add after-Tax Incomes): _____ Disposable Monthly Income (Net Total Income / 12): _____

Month	Disposable Income Monthly income plus any unexpected extra	Residence (Payment + Insurance)	Transp: Car Payment/ Gas and Ins.	Utility Bills Water/ Power/ Cable/ Internet/ Cell Phone	Food: Grocery <i>and</i> eating out	Retail Spending Clothing/ house items/ supplies/any "stuff" you buy	Entertainment (Movies, Concerts, Six Flags, ETC)	OTHER Gym, vacation UNEXP expenses	TOTAL Spent For the Month (Add Residence through Other) <i>*If more than income, subtract from savings</i>	TOTAL Saved	
										Income – Total Spent <i>*Keep a running total *DO NOT add savings to income *To use savings from previous month, you may overspend</i>	
JAN										Month	Total
FEB										Month	Total
MAR										Month	Total
APR										Month	Total
MAY										Month	Total
JUNE										Month	Total
JULY										Month	Total
AUG										Month	Total
SEP										Month	Total
OCT										Month	Total
NOV								PROP. TAX		Month	Total
DEC										Month	Total
Yearly Totals										X	

Annual Budget Project

In this project you and a partner will compile a realistic annual budget based on given incomes. For the purpose of the project, we are assuming you and your partner have agreed to completely share a bank account! Therefore, you will need to make all of your financial decisions together. There are three graded sections to the project. Requirements/rules for the project are as follows:

1. YOU MAY NOT ADD TO YOUR INCOME. This means don't ask me if you can get a second job or sell things you already own, etc.
2. You and your partner are ONLY allowed to keep **5 things** from inside your house! 5 – that's it! Things you might want to consider keeping: tv, bed (we'll assume the linens come with the bed), clothes, couch, chair, desk, refrigerator, microwave, coffee machine, oven, cell phone, night stand, household furniture, game system, guitar/piano, etc. *Everything else we are going to assume is going to be purchased in the year of the project. ****NOTE: Because I want you to have the experience of looking for one, YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO KEEP YOUR CAR!!!!*
3. You will budget your income over the course of an entire year and record your expenses on ONE budget chart spreadsheet. The chart must be completely filled in and all the math correct. Ideally, I want you to try to save about 30% of your income, but still be REALISTIC!
4. You will need to write one biographical essay for the two of you. The essay needs to follow this format:
 - a. P1: Introduction to your jobs, income, and what you decided to keep from your house and why.
 - b. P2: An explanation of why you chose the living arrangements you chose.
 - c. P3: An explanation of why you chose the transportation methods you chose.
 - d. P4: An explanation of several of your big expenses (trips, big purchases, etc).
 - e. P5: An explanation of your box of life items and how they affected you.
 - f. P6: A conclusion that explains what you plan on doing with your savings and how incentives affected your decisions. Also, describe something your group learned from this project that you think will be beneficial in life.
5. You will need a presentation that explains 3 different months of expenses. A template will be provided to show what that should look like. ALL GROUP MEMBERS MUST PRESENT!

I have three primary goals for this task: 1) Learn something, 2) BE REALISTIC!, 3) Have fun. Be creative with this! I love reading essays where people get into it and make up stories around their circumstances. It makes it more fun to grade. REALISM IS IMPORTANT!!!!!! If you're not sure if you're being realistic, ASK!!! Parents, teachers, etc. can all be helpful.

Tips for success

- Research research research! Students who have done the best on this project are the ones who can back up their decisions
- You ARE NOT 18! You ARE NOT IN HIGH SCHOOL! Planning a spring break trip to PC might be creepy when you're 25, just sayin.
- The biggest places people lose points are FOOD and RETAIL spending. Take some time to get these right! Use the resources I provided for some guidance. You will NOT eat Ramen Noodles, Cereal, Saltines every meal every day. Don't even ask.
- If you find a house/car that looks too good to be true...it is. Keep looking. If you have to ask me if it's okay, it's probably not.
- Check as you go to make sure the kinds of decisions you're making are realistic. The goal here is not to jokingly see if you can live as cheaply as possible! Take it seriously, but have fun too!

RUBRIC

	3	2	1	Weight
Chart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All items are filled in with accurate/realistic numbers. • Math is correct and all expenses stayed within income. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers not researched/accurate. • Some items missing or incomplete • Math is incorrect on parts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chart is MOSTLY incomplete. • Income restraints totally ignored. 	X3
Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay follows exact format as described in instructions • ALL explanations are realistic based on income level and defended with examples or citations • Essay ALSO explains the role of incentives when creating a budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least one (or more) explanation is unrealistic/confusing/incomplete/irrational/facetious/ etc • Essay lacks major details or vaguely explains incentives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay format makes it difficult to find information • MOST explanations are unrealistic or not-serious • Essay does not mention incentives. 	X6
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both partners had speaking parts explaining major part of the project. • Presentation included discussion of income, major expenses, and overall lifestyle AND SOURCES OF INFO. • At least 3 different months were explained. • Visual was used during presentation and related directly to topic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One partner presented. • Presentation left out important details or required number of months. • Visual images did not relate to presentation or to chart (wrong car, all use of random clip art, etc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation did not include any major details. 	X6
Overall Effort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic numbers, evidence of outside research. • Prepared for presentation, • Took project seriously by asking relevant questions, taking time to plan out realistic expenses. • ALWAYS on task in class! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mostly realistic numbers demonstrating some research. • At times not on task/did not take project seriously. • Not prepared for presentation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little effort demonstrated. • Project apparently thrown together last minute. • Continually making unrealistic or silly comments. • Often off task. 	X1

TOTAL ____/48

Description of Categories

Residence: You may choose an apartment, house, duplex, etc. You **MUST** choose a location in Georgia. Remember, I am looking for realistic choices. Legitimately pretend you are going to live in this place so don't just look at price. Consider safety, livability, proximity to work, family, or things you like to do as well.

Transportation: You do not **HAVE** to have a car, but you must have a realistic method of getting around, particularly if your job requires you to go to a specific location (i.e. teacher, office worker, etc). Atlanta has a somewhat poor public transportation system, but if you're living in the city, it's possible to make it work. I have lots of friends that live in or near Atlanta and **ALL** of them have at least one car.

***** ALSO include insurance, gas, and upkeep in the overall price of your car.**

Insurance: If time permits, we will try to get an insurance quote in class. Otherwise, ask your parents what they currently pay and multiply that by 1.65. This is because you won't have the long driving record they do at your age.

Gas: Try to get a rough estimate of how far from work you will be. Calculate how many miles you will drive a month. Try to find your car's miles per gallon to calculate how many gallons you'll need each month. Multiply that number by AT LEAST 3.15 (for cheap gas) for your monthly gas payment.

Utilities: These will vary greatly depending on whether you are in an apartment or house. Also, some apartments include utilities in the payments. Ask your parents what they currently pay and adjust accordingly according to number of people in the house, etc. Also, power bills tend to increase in the coldest and hottest months as people use more air or heat. Account for this. *If* you can't find ANY information, ask Mr. Cannon for help on this one. Be sure to include your cell phone plans, cable/internet, garbage, etc in this as well! Also, if you are going to buy new cell phones, make sure you include that!

Food: This is traditionally one of the hardest areas for students to accurately account for. In order to get started on this accurately, you and your partner need to spend at least 10-15 minutes discussing what you eat during a **NORMAL WEEK**. Include snacks, eating out (Starbucks coffee counts here too!), meals you cook, brands of food/juice, etc and *write it down*. Remember, you won't be living at home so "my momma cooks" won't cut it anymore. You might find it helpful to create a grocery list and really price everything. I will provide you a resource that gives the **MINIMUM** averages for families of 2, 4, etc. Having a party one month? Better increase it. Going on vacation? People usually spend *a lot more* on food during vacation. **REMEMBER – REALISTIC NUMBERS!!!!**

Retail Spending: The other **MAJORLY OVERLOOKED** category. This includes **ALL NON-FOOD RETAIL EXPENSES!** What does that mean? Think about the following items: light-bulbs, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, paper-towels, a vacuum cleaner, pet-products, napkins, new clothes, shampoo, soap, washrags, cologne, plates, forks, a blender, a mixer, hair-care products, nail-products, printer-cartridge, pins, tape, DVDs, jewelry, new shoes, glasses, air-fresheners, video game system, video games, haircuts, nail salon, ...basically any good or service you will ever need or want to buy goes here. This column should **NEVER NEVER NEVER** be \$0! That is not realistic even for many families in poverty and your incomes are above that level.

*****Don't forget about Christmas and birthdays! People buy more "stuff" during these times!*****

Entertainment: This category is for things like concert tickets, plays, football games, going "clubbin", or anything that involves some kind of "entry" fee or "ticket charge."

Other: Anything not accounted for somewhere else goes here. Vacations, road trips, adopting a kid, all would count under "other" expenses. That includes membership in any social clubs or gyms or other organization. This is also where you will account for your "unexpected events" as you select them.

Total spent for the month: Add everything in Residence through other.

Total saved for the month: Subtract the total spend for the month from the disposable income.

Total Saved TOTAL: Any monthly savings added to **LAST MONTH's** savings. For January, the monthly savings and total savings will be equal